Britax

Super Elite™
User Guide

Table of Contents

Introduction 2
Important Notes 2
Safety Information 4
Super Elite Features 6
Vehicle Seat Belts 8
Vehicle Seating Positions 9
Installation: Lap Belt Only 10
Installation: Lap-Shoulder Belt 12
Versa-Tether™ 14
Securing Your Child 16
Checking Harness Height 18
Adjusting Harness Height 19
Adjusting Buckle Position 20
Care and Maintenance 21
Warranty Information 26
Registration Information . . . . . Back Cover

This product and its components are subject to change without notice.
© 2000-2002 Britax Child Safety, Inc. All rights reserved.
"Britax" is a registered trademark of Britax Excelsior, Andover, UK.
User Guide Printed in U.S.A.

Introduction

This product fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards and is certified for use in motor vehicles. It is only intended for use as a forward facing child seat for children who are at least one year of age and weigh between 22 and 80 lbs. It is not to be used at home, in boats, or other non-certified applications. **This restraint is not certified for aircraft use because it is too wide for aircraft seats.**

Please make sure that you read and understand this information booklet before using this product. It is recommended that you store this booklet in the pouch provided on the rear of the restraint for further use and that you consult it often to ensure that you are using the restraint correctly.

Important Notes

- Each time you place your child in the Super Elite, check that it is still secure and that the seat belts are tight. If there is any slack in the belts, retighten them before starting your journey.
- Make sure that you adjust the harness to fit the clothes your child is wearing – a fitting for winter clothes will be too slack for a child wearing summer clothes.
- Cover this product if you vehicle is left sitting in direct sunlight. Parts can become hot to the touch in sunny weather.
- Store the Super Elite in a safe place when it is not being used. Avoid placing heavy objects on top of it.

- If a child restraint is older than six years or has been in a severe crash (i.e. main vehicle body structure distorted) you should discontinue use and dispose of the restraint. This ensures that no hidden damage or deterioration has occurred and that the restraint is not out of date in protection capability.
- DO NOT use this product in the home. It has not been designed for home use and should only be used in a motor vehicle.
- DO NOT use anything, e.g. a cushion or coat, to raise the restraint off the vehicle seat. In an accident, it could slide and be unable to protect your child as well as it should.
- DO NOT, except as described in this booklet, attempt to disassemble any part of the Super Elite or change the way its harness or your vehicle seat belts are used.
- DO NOT leave loose objects, e.g. books, bags, etc., in the back of your vehicle. in the event of a sudden stop, loose objects will keep moving, potentially causing serious injuries.
- DO NOT leave folding vehicle seats unlatched. In the event of a sudden stop, a loose seat back could prevent the child restraint from protecting your child as well as it should.
- DO NOT leave children alone in a vehicle, even for a short time.
- DO NOT allow children to play with this product.

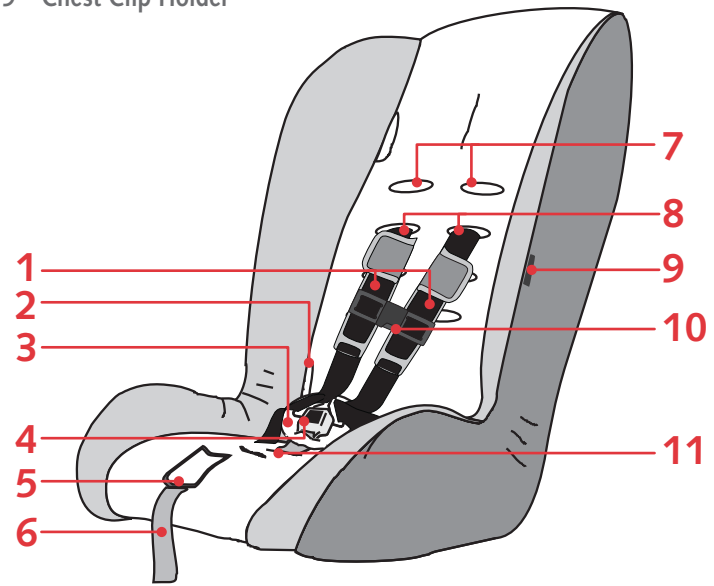
WARNING

- FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS OR ANY WARNING LABELS CAN RESULT IN YOUR CHILD STRIKING THE VEHICLE'S INTERIOR DURING A SUDDEN STOP OR CRASH. SECURE THIS PRODUCT WITH A VEHICLE SEAT BELT AS SPECIFIED IN THIS INSTRUCTION BOOKLET.
- USE THE VEHICLE'S LAP-SHOULDER BELT SYSTEM OR LAP BELT SYSTEM. ALWAYS USE THE TOP TETHER FOR CHILDREN WEIGHING MORE THAN 50 lbs.
- According to accident statistics, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration recommends that parents select the rear seat as the safest location for a properly installed child restraint. However, the actual dimensions of the vehicle seat and the details of the safety belts used to anchor the child restraint differ from vehicle to vehicle. Please study the section on *Vehicle Seat Belts* in this booklet for the safety assurance of your child. If in doubt about installing your child restraint, consult your vehicle owner's manual.

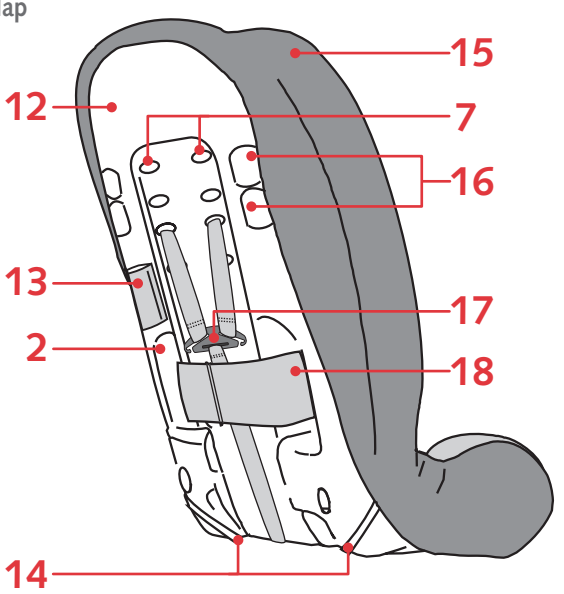
WARNING

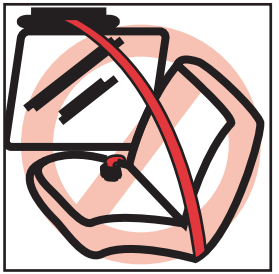
- The primary protection for occupants of a vehicle in a collision is the body of the vehicle itself, and a child restraint will not protect a child when the vehicle is seriously impacted. However, correctly installed, this restraint will substantially improve the chances for survival in most accidents. Make sure that you fully understand the correct way to use this child restraint in your vehicle.
- DO NOT place any child restraint in the front seat of a vehicle with a passenger air bag unless the air bag is turned off. DEATH or SERIOUS INJURY can occur. The back seat is the safest place for children under 12.
- Secure this child restraint even when it is not occupied. In a crash, an unsecured child restraint may fly around and injure vehicle occupants.
- Britax recommends that all child restraints be installed in the rear seat.
- Owners of vehicles with air bags should refer to their owner's manual for child restraint installation instructions.

1 Harness Ultra Guard System (HUGS)
2 Seat belt Routing Slot
3 Belly Pad
4 Buckle
5 Harness Adjuster Tab (under flap)
6 Harness Adjuster Strap
7 Shoulder Harness Slots
8 Harness
9 Chest Clip Holder



10 Chest Clip
11 2-Position Crotch Strap
12 Seat Shell
13 Tether/User Guide Pouch
14 Elastic Ties
15 Cover
16 Tether Slots
17 Yoke
18 Cover Flap





IMPORTANT: Some vehicles have no seating positions which are compatible with the Super Elite (or any other child seat). If in doubt contact your vehicle manufacturer for assistance.

The following types of vehicle seat belts are not compatible with the Super Elite:

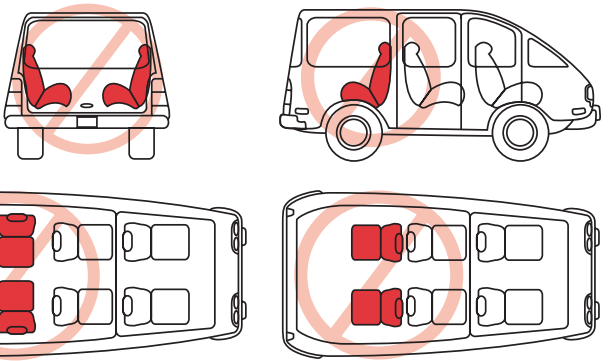
- Front seat belts with top or bottom anchorage points in the door.
- Motor driven automatic seat belts.
- Three-point belts that have separate retractors for the shoulder section and the lap section.
- Non-locking (ELR) two-point seat belts.

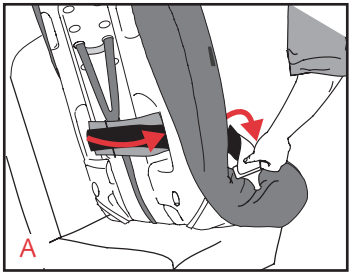
The owner's manual for your vehicle will have information on the types of seat belts in your vehicle. If you have belts of the above-listed types, select another seating position. The Super Elite will work with rear seat three-point seat belts with a sliding latch plate, and with rear seat three-point seat belts that are specifically marked as appropriate for child seats. The middle rear seat of most vehicles has a lap belt which most often will work with the Super Elite.

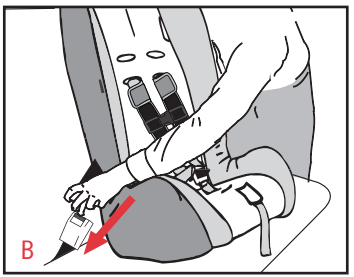
The Super Elite can fit securely in most vehicles using the existing seat belts. However, some types of vehicle designs prevent a secure fit of the child seat due to the position of the seat belt lower anchorage points.

WARNING

- Use the Super Elite only in vehicle seats which face forward!
- Do not use this seat on vehicle seats facing sideways or backwards!
- Forward facing vehicle seats **must** be used with the Super Elite. Side facing or rear facing seats in vans, station wagons or trucks **cannot** be used with this child seat.
- DO NOT locate any child under 12 on the front seat with an air bag unless the air bag is turned off. DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY can result. The back seat is the safest place for children.







NOTE: Before installing in your vehicle, make sure that the shoulder slots are at the correct level for your child. See *Checking Harness Height* on page 18.

1 Place the child seat facing forward on the vehicle seat.

2 Loosen harness: with one hand, press and hold down the harness adjuster tab, then pull the shoulder harness forward with the other hand.

3 Pull the lap belt out until fully extended, then pass the seat belt through the first belt routing slot from the front of the child seat to the rear (*Fig. A*).

4 Route belt over the cover flap, then through the second belt routing slot from the rear of the child seat to the front (*Fig. A*).

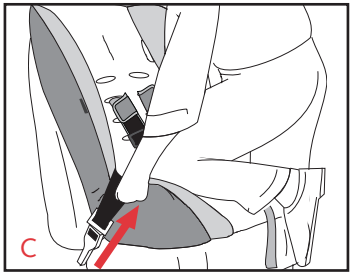
5 Fasten the seat belt, then verify that the seat belt is not twisted (*Fig. B*).

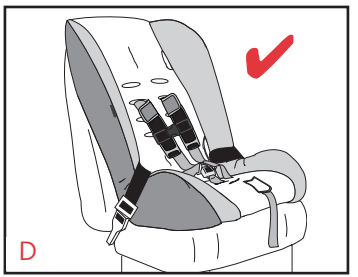
6 Carefully kneel on the child seat to push it into the vehicle seat using your full body weight (*Fig. C*).

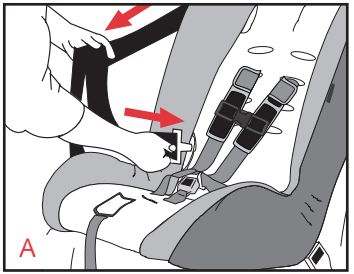
7 Remove all slack from the lap belt.

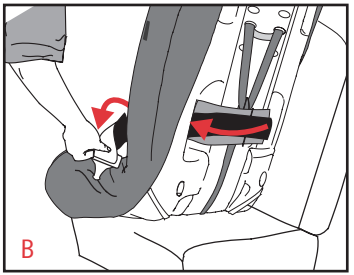
8 The restraint should now be secure. To check this, try to pull the restraint forward by the harness. It should feel firm, not loose (*Fig.D*).

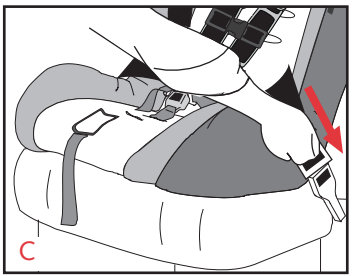
To remove, simply unfasten the seat belt and reverse the directions for installation.











NOTE: Before installing in your vehicle, make sure that the shoulder slots are at the correct level for your child. See *Checking Harness Height* on page 18.

1 Place the child seat facing forward on the vehicle seat.

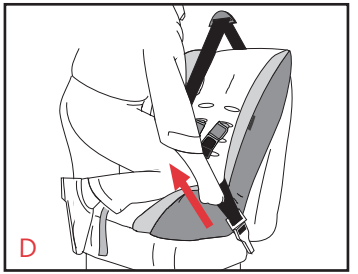
2 Loosen harness: with one hand, press and hold down the harness adjuster tab, then pull the shoulder harness forward with the other hand.

3 Pull the vehicle belt out and hold the lap and shoulder sections together. Keep the sections together as you pass the seat belt through the first belt routing slot from the front of the child seat to the rear (*Fig. A*).

4 Route belt over the cover flap, then through the second belt routing slot from the rear of the child seat to the front (*Fig. B*).

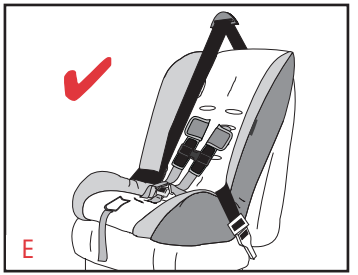
5 Fasten the seat belt, then verify that the seat belt is not twisted (*Fig. C*).

6 Carefully kneel on the child seat to push it into the vehicle seat using your full body weight (*Fig. D*).

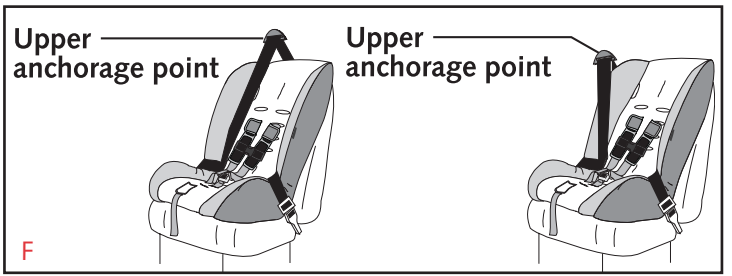


7 Pull slack from the lap belt, then pull the shoulder belt to completely tighten the seat belt.

8 The restraint should now be secure. To check this, try to pull the restraint forward by the harness. It should feel firm, not loose (*Fig.E*).



IMPORTANT: The points at which your vehicle seat belt is attached are known as anchorage points. Depending on the position of the upper anchorage point, the seat belt should be routed as shown below.



- NEVER ATTACH A FORWARD FACING TETHER TO A LOCATION THAT IS NOT RECOMMENDED BY YOUR VEHICLE MANUFACTURER OR TO A LOCATION THAT YOU BELIEVE IS INCORRECT OR NOT STRONG ENOUGH. IF THE TETHER COMES LOOSE IN A CRASH, THE METAL HOOK CAN FLY AROUND AND INJURE SOMEONE IN THE VEHICLE.
- THE TOP TETHER **MUST** BE USED FOR CHILDREN HEAVIER THAN 50 lbs.
- Britax recommends that the tether be used at all times. Using the tether will improve the stability of your child restraint and reduce the risk of injury.
- If your vehicle does not currently have a tether anchor attachment refer to your vehicle owner's manual or contact your vehicle manufacturer for assistance.
- If a tether anchorage is not available, you should NOT modify your vehicle without advice from your vehicle manufacturer.

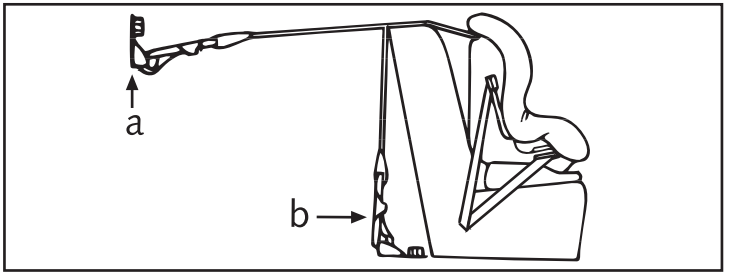
INSTALLING THE VERSA-TETHER™

1 Once your child seat is in a secure, seat-belted position locate the tether and remove from pouch.

2 Lift the silver metal tab on the tether strap out, then fully extend tether.

3 Locate the tether anchor in your vehicle. Use a tether anchor in location A or B in the illustration on page 15.

IMPORTANT: If in doubt about your tether anchorage point or if your vehicle is not equipped with a tether anchorage point, check your vehicle owner's manual or contact your vehicle manufacturer for assistance.



4 Hook the tether to the tether anchor point, then pull on the tether belt to remove any slack.

5 Verify that there is tension in the tether strap and that child seat is properly secured.

RELEASING THE VERSA-TETHER™

To release the Versa-Tether lift the silver metal tab on the tether adjuster, then pull.

Follow the instructions below on how to fit the harness around your child, then refer to *Checking Harness Height* on page 18 to verify that the harness is properly adjusted for your child.

1 Loosen harness: with one hand, press and hold down the harness adjuster tab, then pull the shoulder harness forward with the other hand (*Fig. A*).

2 Press the release button to unfasten buckle (*Fig. B*).

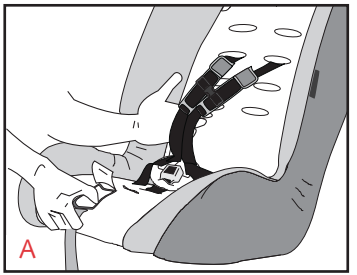
3 Unfasten the chest clip.

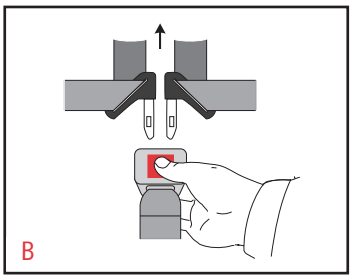
4 Tuck each half of the unfastened chest clip into the adjacent elastic chest clip holder.

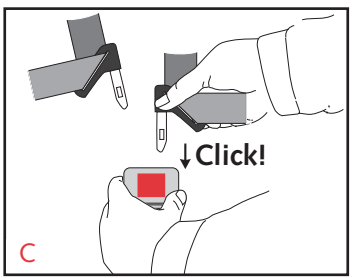
5 Place your child in the child seat.

6 Loosely fit the harness over your child's shoulders.

7 Fasten the buckle: push each buckle tongue firmly into the lower section until you hear a positive click (*Fig. C*).


A


B



C

8 Verify that the chest clip is open and that the harness is not twisted.

9 Gently pull the harness up to tighten the lap sections. Make sure the lap straps are aligned with your child's hips (*Fig. D*).

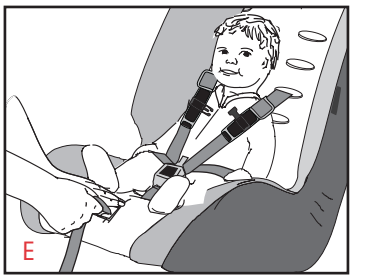
10 Pull the adjuster strap until the harness is adjusted to a comfortable but FIRM fit around your child (*Fig. E*).

11 Fasten the chest clip.

IMPORTANT: The chest clip must be adjusted so it is at the child's armpit level.

12 Verify that the harness is not twisted.

D

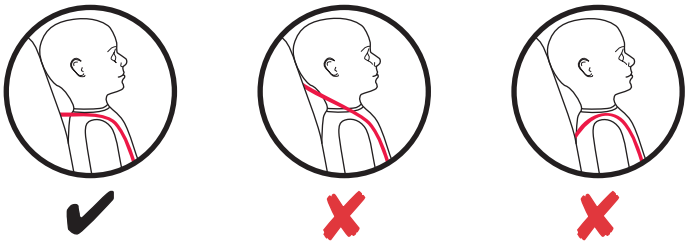

E

NOTE: With larger children the position of the buckle may require adjustment before the harness will fasten properly – see *Adjusting Buckle Position* on page 20.

Checking Harness Height

The shoulder harness MUST be threaded through the slots in the cover and shell nearest the top of your child's shoulders. If in any doubt always use the slot above the shoulder rather than below it.

Once the top slots become necessary, your child may continue to use the seat until the center of the ears become level with the top of the seat shell or weight exceeds 80 lbs.



Adjusting Harness Height

1 Fasten buckle and chest clip for easier handling.

2 Loosen harness: with one hand, press and hold down the harness adjuster tab, then pull the shoulder harness forward with the other hand (*Fig. A*).

3 Remove one strap from yoke (*Fig. B*).

4 Pull strap through to the front of the seat.

5 Rethread strap through the shoulder slot required for a proper fit to your child.

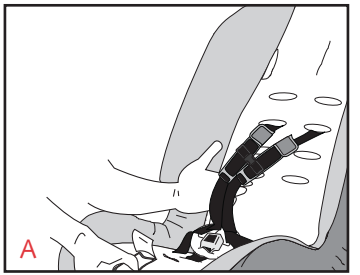
6 Attach strap to yoke (*Fig. B*).

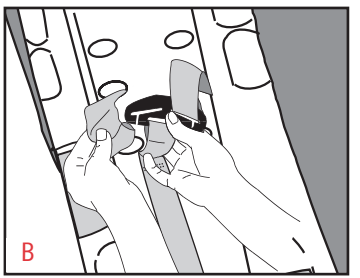
7 Verify that the strap is not twisted.

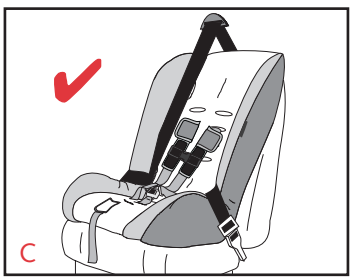
8 Repeat steps 3-6 for the second strap.

9 Pull the harness strap forward to tighten harness.

10 Verify that the straps are threaded at the same height and are not twisted (*Fig. C*).







Adjusting Buckle Position

The buckle has two positions and should be adjusted to fit your child (*Fig. A*).

IMPORTANT: Do not use position two (2) until child exceeds 50 lbs!

1 Turn child seat on its side.

2 Locate the metal buckle strap retainer on bottom of the seat (*Fig. B*).

3 Pull retainer away from child seat to loosen.

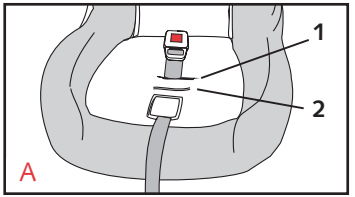
4 Turn the retainer so that the short side will go through the slot in the seat shell (*Fig. C*).

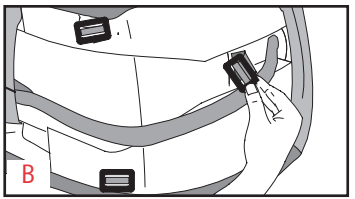
5 Push the retainer through the slots in the shell and cover to the front of the seat.

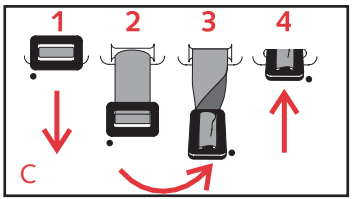
6 Locate the necessary buckle slot (*Fig. A*).

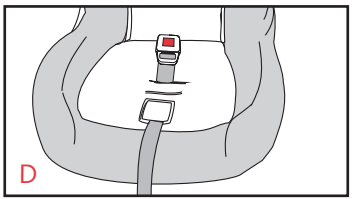
7 Turn the buckle retainer so that the short side will go through the slot in the cover and seat shell (*Fig. C*).

8 Pull buckle away from seat until tight, then verify that the release button is facing outward and the strap is not twisted (*Fig. D*).









Care and Maintenance

REMOVING THE HARNESS

1 Fasten buckle and chest clip for easier handling.

2 Loosen harness: with one hand, press and hold down the harness adjuster tab, then pull the shoulder harness forward with the other hand.

3 Turn child seat on its side.

4 Locate the metal harness retainers on the lower end of each harness strap on the bottom of the child seat (*Fig. E*).

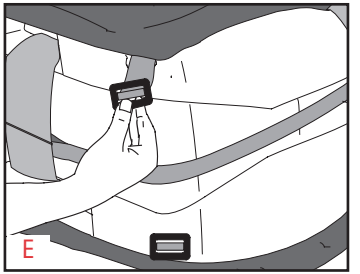
5 Unclip the elastic from the plastic clip.

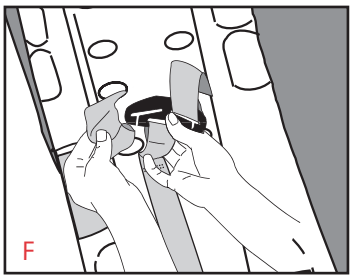
6 Pull each harness retainer away from child seat to loosen.

7 Turn each harness retainer so that the short side will go through the slot in the seat shell (*Fig. C*).

8 Push each retainer through the slot in the shell and cover to the front of seat.

9 Remove straps from yoke, then pull straps through to the front of seat (*Fig. F*).





RETHREADING THE HARNESS

1 If cover is not in place, refit cover. *See instructions on page 23*.

2 Fasten child seat buckle to assist with alignment.

3 Thread straps through the shoulder slots required for a proper fit to your child. Do not allow straps to twist.

4 Attach each strap to the yoke.

5 Turn the harness retainer so that the short side will go through the slot in the cover and seat shell.

6 Push the retainer through the slots in the shell and cover to the front of seat.

7 Attach elastic to plastic clip.

8 Repeat steps 5-7 for second harness retainer.

9 Pull the harness strap forward to tighten harness.

10 Verify that the straps are properly threaded and are not twisted.

11 Refer to *Checking Harness Height* on page 18 to verify that the harness is properly adjusted for your child.

CLEANING THE HARNESS

SPONGE CLEAN using cold water and mild soap.

LINE DRY

DO NOT:

- Use chlorine bleach
- Use solvents
- Remove the harness adjuster strap
- Machine dry
- Machine wash

REMOVING THE COVER

1 Remove harness. *See instructions on page 22*.

2 Unfasten hook and loop attachment on the cover flap.

3 Remove the belly pad from the crotch strap.

4 Carefully lift cover, easing buckle and adjuster strap through their respective slots in the cover.

REFITTING THE COVER

1 Position cover on seat with Britax label facing up.

2 Carefully pull the buckle and adjuster strap through their respective slots in the cover.

3 Pull cover over the top edge of the seat shell, then work your way down to the bottom until cover is pulled over all edges..

4 Attach elastic to plastic clip.

5 Pull the cover flap tight, then fasten with hook and loop attachment.

CLEANING THE COVER

HAND WASH using cold water and mild soap.

LINE DRY to prevent cover from shrinking.

DO NOT:

- Use chlorine bleach
- Machine wash
- Machine dry

REMOVING THE BUCKLE

1 Turn child seat on its side.

2 Locate the metal buckle strap retainer on bottom of the seat.

3 Pull retainer away from child seat to loosen.

4 Turn the retainer so that the short side will go through the slot in the seat shell.

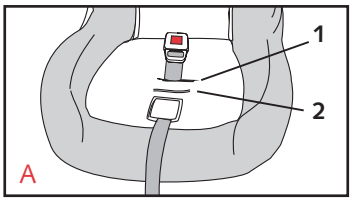
5 Push the retainer through slots in the shell and cover to the front of the seat.

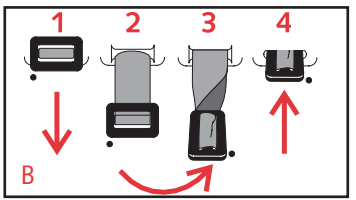
RETHREADING THE BUCKLE

1 Locate the necessary buckle slot (*Fig. A*).

2 Turn the buckle retainer so that the short side will go through the slot in the cover and seat shell (*Fig. B*).

3 Pull buckle away from seat until tight, then verify that the release button is facing outward and the strap is not twisted.





CLEANING THE BUCKLE

THOROUGHLY RINSE using warm water (*Fig. C*).

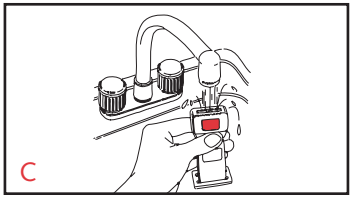
SOAK using warm water to loosen hardened liquid or food.

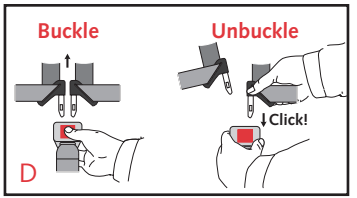
TEST the buckle by fastening and unfastening until you hear a positive click. If click is not heard continue to clean (*Fig. D*).

TOWEL DRY.

DO NOT:

- Lubricate
- Use solvents
- Use household detergents





WARRANTY

This child restraint (Super Elite) was manufactured by Britax. Britax Child Safety, Inc. ("Britax") warrants this product to the original retail purchaser as follows:

LIMITED ONE-YEAR WARRANTY

This product is warranted against defective materials or workmanship for one year from the date of original purchase. Proof of purchase is required. Your exclusive remedy for this warranty is that Britax will, at its option, provide repair or replacement components for this product or refund the original purchase price of the product. Britax reserves the right to discontinue or change fabrics, parts, models or products, or to make substitutions.

To make a claim under this warranty, you must contact Britax Customer Services Department at 1-888-427-4829 or write to us. Proof of purchase is required.

PLEASE COMPLETE AND MAIL THE PRE-ADDRESSED OWNER REGISTRATION CARD WITHIN (30) DAYS OF PURCHASE.

WARRANTY LIMITATIONS

This warranty does not include damages which arise from negligence, misuse or use not in accordance with the product instruction.

LIMITATION OF DAMAGES

The warranty and remedies as set forth above are exclusive and in lieu of all others, oral or written express or implied. In no event will Britax or the retailer selling this product be liable to you for any damages, including incidental or consequential damages, arising out of the use or inability to use this product.

LIMITATIONS OF WARRANTIES AND OTHER WARRANTY TERMS AND STATE LAWS

Any implied warranties, including implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, shall be limited to the duration and terms of the express written warranty. Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts or the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitations may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may have other rights, which vary from state to state. Neither Britax, nor the retailer selling this product, authorizes any person to create for it any other warranty, obligation, or liability in connection with this product.

Notes

Registration Information

Fill out the registration card and mail it in today!

Child restraints could be recalled for safety reasons. You must register this restraint to be reached in a recall. Send your name, address and the restraint's model number and manufacturing date to Britax Child Safety, Inc. 13501 South Ridge Drive Charlotte, NC 28273 or call 1-888-4BRITAX. For recall information, call the U.S. Government's Auto Safety Hotline at 1-800-424-9393 (202-366-0123 in DC area).

Britax

Britax Child Safety, Inc.
13501 South Ridge Drive
Charlotte, NC 28273
USA

Tel: 704-409-1700
www.BritaxUSA.com

R3:02/02
P222100